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PM-SUMMIT

KIGALI, RWANDA, MAY 21, REUTER - A FRENCH CUT-OFF OF ALL ECONOMIC AID TO THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE AFTER THE ALLEGED KILLING OF DOZENS OF YOUNG STUDENTS THERE LAST MONTH IS LIKELY TO BE A MAJOR TOPIC AT A SUMMIT OF AFRICAN LEADERS TODAY.

EMPEROR BOKASSA IS IN KIGALI, CAPITAL OF THE TINY CENTRAL AFRICAN STATE OF RWANDA, FOR THE SUMMIT OF FRENCH-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH IS ALSO BEING ATTENDED BY PRESIDENT VALERY GISCARD D'ESTAING OF FRANCE.

THE EMPEROR, WHO DEPENDS ON FRANCE FOR ALMOST HIS ENTIRE BUDGET THOUGH HIS COUNTRY HAS RICH MINERAL DEPOSITS, YESTERDAY DENIED ALLEGATIONS THAT BETWEEN 50 AND 100 CHILDREN PROTESTING AGAINST COMPULSORY SCHOOL UNIFORMS HAD BEEN MASSACRED IN BANGUI, THE CAPITAL.

HIS VOICE TREMBLING WITH EMOTION, EMPEROR BOKASSA TOLD REPORTERS AFTER ARRIVING FOR THE SUMMIT, "NO ONE MASSACRED CHILDREN. IT WAS A CASE OF GROWN-UP CHILDREN INSPIRED BY REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGIES....

"THERE WERE NO EIGHT-YEAR-OLD CHILDREN KILLED, I ASSURE YOU. I AM PAPA BOK. EVERYONE CALLS ME PAPA BOK."

FRANCE HAS CUT OFF ALL AID UNTIL ITS GETS A SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION ABOUT THE ALLEGED KILLINGS IN THE FORMER FRENCH COLONY, ACCORDING TO FRENCH GOVERNMENT SOURCES.

MORE 0113

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY RLCS DATE 10/27/82
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. CAT(S)
ENDORSE EXEMPTIONS ☐
DECLASSIFY ON LABEL ☐
RELEASE DENY EXEMPTIONS
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

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PM-SUMMIT 2 KIGALI

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, THE LONDON-BASED HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION, REPORTED THE ALLEGED MASSACRE LAST WEEK. IT SAID THE KILLINGS TOOK PLACE ON APRIL 18.

FRENCH AID TO EMPEROR BOKASSA AND HIS URANIUM-RICH COUNTRY IS ESTIMATED AT FOUR MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR. HE IS ALSO SAID TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

THE EMPEROR HAS DESCRIBED THE MASSACRE REPORT AS A SLANDEROUS CAMPAIGN OF LIES.

THERE ARE AT LEAST 14 HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT AT TODAY'S SUMMIT, WHICH IS ALSO BEING PRESSED TO DISCUSS A PLAN PUT FORWARD BY SENEGAL FOR DEFENSE COOPERATION AMONG THE FRENCH-SPEAKING AFRICAN STATES WITH PARIS PROVIDING MILITARY BACKING.

BUT CONFERENCE SOURCES SAID PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING DOES NOT WANT THE ISSUE DEBATED IN PUBLIC. INSTEAD HE WANTS (